

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-57 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-5, 7-18, 20-33, 35, 37-43, 46-49, and 56-57 have been amended. The Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following amendments reflected in the listing of claims.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system providing support for user transactions on a media exchange network, the system comprising:

a television display for consumption of media at a first location;

a storage for storing media, and having an associated network address;

set top box circuitry at the first location, the set top box circuitry communicatively coupled to deliver media from the storage to the television display;

an interface device for receiving from an authorization device associated with a first user at the first location, information for authorizing a user transaction, the interface device communicatively coupled to the set top box circuitry; and

server software that receives a request from ~~[[a]]~~ the first user of the media exchange network, the request comprising ~~at least one~~ or more of the associated network address, information identifying the user transaction, and at least a portion

of the information for authorizing ~~[[a]]~~ the user transaction, the server software enables authorization by the first user of a second user of the media exchange network at a second location so that at least a portion of the authorized user transaction is performed with ~~and that responds by employing a user predefined association of the first user to a second user of the media exchange network to enable the completion of the identified user transaction with the second user, via a communication network, without divulging the identity of the first user~~ to the second user.

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the media comprises ~~at least one~~ or more ~~of the following:~~ audio, a still image, video, real-time video, and data.

3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein consumption comprises ~~at least one~~ or more ~~of the following:~~ playing audio, displaying a still image, displaying video, and displaying data.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the associated network address is one or more ~~of the following:~~ an Internet protocol (IP) address, a media access control (MAC) address, and an electronic serial number (ESN).

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the communication network comprises ~~at least one~~ or more ~~of the following~~: a cable infrastructure, a satellite network infrastructure, a digital subscriber line (DSL) infrastructure, an Internet infrastructure, an intranet infrastructure, a wired infrastructure, and a wireless infrastructure.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the communication network is the Internet.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the interface device comprises one or more ~~of the following~~: an optical card reader, a magnetic card reader, a radio frequency identification (RFID) interface, an integrated circuit (IC) card interface, a biometric sensing device, and a cellular telephone.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the interface device is communicatively coupled to the set top box circuitry using a wireless coupling mechanism.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 8 wherein the wireless coupling mechanism comprises ~~at least one~~ or both ~~of the following~~: an infrared link and a radio frequency link.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the user transaction comprises ~~at least one~~ or more ~~of the following:~~ storage, exchange, purchase, and consumption of media.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 ~~further comprising:~~
a remote control communicatively coupled to the set top box circuitry.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11 wherein the remote control comprises ~~the~~ [[an]] ~~interface device for receiving user transaction authorization information from an authorization device associated with a user, and~~
wherein the remote control ~~communicating~~ communicates the information for authorizing the ~~user transaction authorization information to the set top box circuitry.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12 wherein the remote control comprises a scanning device to identify ~~at least one~~ or both of a product and a service related to the user transaction.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13 wherein the scanning device comprises one or both of the following: an optical scanner and a radio frequency identification (RFID) interface.

15. (Currently Amended) A system providing support for user transactions on a media exchange network, the system comprising:

a television display for consumption of media at a first location;

a storage for storing media;

set top box circuitry at the first location, the set top box circuitry communicatively coupled to deliver media from the storage to the television display;

an interface device for receiving from an authorization device associated with a first user at the first location, information for authorizing a user transaction, the interface device communicatively coupled to the set top box circuitry; and

server software that receives a request from ~~[[a]]~~the first user, the server software enables authorization by the first user of a second user of the media exchange network at a second location so that at least a portion of the authorized user transaction is performed with ~~and that responds by employing a user predefined association of the first user to a second user of the media exchange network to enable the completion of the user transaction with the second user, via~~

a communication network, without divulging the identity of the first user to the second user.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15 wherein the media comprises ~~at least one~~ or more ~~of the following:~~ audio, a still image, video, real-time video, and data.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15 wherein consumption comprises ~~at least one~~ or more ~~of the following:~~ playing audio, displaying a still image, displaying video, and displaying data.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15 wherein the communication network comprises ~~at least one~~ or more ~~of the following:~~ a cable infrastructure, a satellite network infrastructure, a digital subscriber line (DSL) infrastructure, an Internet infrastructure, an intranet infrastructure, a wired infrastructure, and a wireless infrastructure.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the communication network is the Internet.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15 wherein the user transaction comprises ~~at least one~~ or more ~~of the following:~~ storage, exchange, purchase, and consumption of media.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15 wherein the interface device comprises one or more of an optical card reader, a magnetic card reader, a radio frequency identification (RFID) interface, an integrated circuit (IC) card interface, a biometric sensing device, and a cellular telephone.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15 wherein the interface device is communicatively coupled to the set top box circuitry using a wireless coupling mechanism.

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22 wherein the wireless coupling mechanism comprises ~~at least one~~ or both ~~of the following:~~ an infrared link and a radio frequency link.

24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15 ~~further~~ comprising:
a remote control communicatively coupled to the set top box circuitry.

25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24 wherein the remote control comprises ~~[[an]]the~~ interface device ~~for receiving user transaction authorization information from an authorization device associated with a user, and~~ wherein the remote control communicating communicates the information for authorizing the user transaction authorization information to the set top box circuitry.

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25 wherein the remote control comprises a scanning device to identify ~~at least one~~ or both of a product and a service related to the user transaction.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 26 wherein the scanning device comprises one or both of ~~the following:~~ an optical scanner and a radio frequency identification (RFID) interface.

28. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the user transaction comprises the purchase of one or ~~more~~ both of a good and a service.

29. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15 wherein the user transaction comprises the purchase of one or ~~more~~ both of a good and a service.

30. (Currently Amended) One or more circuits for use in a set top box in a media exchange network, the one or more circuits comprising:

~~[[an]]~~a display interface operably coupled to a display; and

at least one processor operably coupled to at least one interface for communicating via a broadband communication network, and to storage for storing media and having an associated network address, the at least one processor operable to:

deliver media from the storage to the display at a first location, via the display interface,

receive from an authorization device associated with a first user of the media exchange network at the first location, information for authorizing a user transaction, and

send a request to a server, the request comprising ~~at least one~~ or more of the associated network address, information identifying the user transaction, and at least a portion of the information for authorizing ~~[[a]]~~ the user transaction, and wherein the request causes the server to enable authorization by the first user of a second user of the media exchange network at a second location so that at least a portion of the authorized user transaction is performed with ~~employ a user predefined association of the first user to a second user of the media exchange network to enable the~~

~~completion of the authorized user transaction with~~ the second user, via the broadband communication network.

31. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 30 wherein the media comprises ~~at least one~~ or more ~~of the following:~~ audio, a still image, video, real-time video, and data.

32. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 30 wherein the associated network address is one or more ~~of the following:~~ an Internet protocol (IP) address, a media access control (MAC) address, and an electronic serial number (ESN).

33. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 30 wherein the broadband communication network comprises one or more ~~of the following:~~ a cable infrastructure, a satellite network infrastructure, a digital subscriber line (DSL) infrastructure, an Internet infrastructure, an intranet infrastructure, a wired infrastructure, and a wireless infrastructure.

34. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 30 wherein the broadband communication network is the Internet.

35. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 30 wherein the authorization device comprises one or more of the ~~following~~: an optical card, a magnetic card, a radio frequency identification (RFID) device, an integrated circuit (IC) card, a biometric feature of a user, and a cellular telephone.

36. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 30 wherein the authorization device is communicatively coupled to the at least one processor via a wireless coupling mechanism.

37. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 36 wherein the wireless coupling mechanism comprises ~~at least one~~ or both of the ~~following~~: an infrared link and a radio frequency link.

38. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 30 wherein the user transaction comprises ~~at least one~~ or more of the ~~following~~: storage, exchange, purchase, and consumption of media.

39. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 30 wherein consumption comprises ~~at least one~~ or more of the ~~following~~: playing audio, displaying a still image, displaying video, and displaying data.

40. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 30 wherein the at least one processor is ~~further~~ operable to:

receive user transaction information from a handheld remote control.

41. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 40 wherein the handheld remote control comprises an interface device for receiving the information for authorizing the user transaction ~~authorization information from~~ ~~[[an]]the~~ authorization device associated with ~~[[a]]the~~ first user, the remote control communicating the information for authorizing the user transaction ~~authorization information~~ to the at least one processor.

42. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 40 wherein the remote control comprises a scanning device to identify ~~at least one~~ or both of a product and a service related to the user transaction.

43. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 42 wherein the scanning device comprises one or both of ~~the following:~~ an optical scanner and a radio frequency identification (RFID) interface.

44. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 30 wherein the authorized user transaction with the second user is completed without divulging the identity of the first user to the second user.

45. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 30 wherein the display is a television set.

46. (Currently Amended) One or more circuits for use in a communication terminal at a first location in a media exchange network, the one or more circuits comprising:

at least one interface for communicating via a communication network; and

at least one processor operably coupled to the at least one interface, the at least one processor having an associated network address and being operable to:

receive from a first user, at the first location, information for authorizing a user transaction,

send a request comprising ~~at least one~~ or more of the associated network address, information identifying the user transaction, and at least a portion of the information for authorizing ~~[[a]]~~ the user transaction, to a server, and

cause delivery of media from storage to a communication terminal of a second user at a second location via the communication network, wherein

the first user authorizes the second user to communicate with the first user
prior to the media delivery.~~completion of the user transaction occurs by~~
~~utilization of a user predefined association of the first user to the second~~
~~user of the media exchange network.~~

47. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 46 wherein the communication network comprises one or more of the following: a cable infrastructure, a satellite network infrastructure, a digital subscriber line (DSL) infrastructure, an Internet infrastructure, an intranet infrastructure, a wired infrastructure, and a wireless infrastructure.

48. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 46 wherein the user transaction comprises one or more of the following: storage, exchange, purchase, and consumption of media.

49. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 46 wherein media comprises one or more of the following: audio, a still image, video, real-time video, and data.

50. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 46 wherein the server is located at the first location.

51. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 50 wherein the server is located within the communication terminal at the first location.

52. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 46 wherein the server is located at a third location remote from the first location and the second location.

53. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 46 wherein the storage is located at the first location.

54. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 46 wherein the storage is located at a third location remote from the first location and the second location.

55. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 46 wherein the authorized user transaction is completed without divulging the identity of the first user to the second user.

56. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 46 wherein the at least one processor is operable to receive the information for authorizing ~~[[a]]~~the user transaction from an authorization device.

57. (Currently Amended) The one or more circuits of claim 56 wherein the authorization device comprises one or more of an optical card, a magnetic card, a radio frequency identification (RFID) device, an integrated circuit (IC) card, a biometric feature of a user, and a cellular telephone.